

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NSF-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-07 EA-09 FRB-01 INR-07 IO-11 NEA-10

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TO SECSTATE WASH DC PRIORITY 0934

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 OECD PARIS 06553

PASS: NSF, NBS, OTP, COMMERCE/OT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TPHY, OECD

SUBJECT: OECD/CSTP: REPORT ON 13TH MEETING, FEBRUARY
24-26, 1976

REF: STATE 042710

1. SUMMARY. COMMITTEE ELECTED FOLLOWING OFFICERS:
CHAIRMAN; AIGRAIN (FRANCE), VICE-CHAIRMEN; MULLIN
(CANADA), KVIFTE (NORWAY), BILCINER (TURKEY). MAIN
BUSINESS ITEMS: (A) ROLE OF CSTP, (B) 1977 PROGRAM
PRIORITIES, (C) PROGRAM AND WORK METHODS OF INFOR-
MATION POLICY GROUP (IPG) AND COMPUTER UTILIZATION
GROUP (CUG), BASED ON REPORT OF TASK FORCE ("GRANGER
GROUP"). MAJOR CONTRIBUTION BY US (GANLEY) TO DIS-
CUSSION OF FUTURE ROLE OF CSTP WELL-RECEIVED, BUT
US VIRTUALLY ISOLATED IN REQUESTING TRANSMITTAL TO
COUNCIL OF IPG/CUG TASK FORCE REPORT, SPT(76)7. DATE
OF NEXT MEETING: JUNE 14-16, BEGINNING AFTERNOON OF
JUNE 14. US REPRESENTED BY GANLEY, OES, GRANGER, NSF.
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END SUMMARY.

2. STATEMENT BY DIRECTOR, DSTI/D/76.162. OSHIMA SET TONE OF MEETING IN LONG ADDRESS WITH FOLLOWING MAJOR POINTS: (A) MANDATE OF CSTP WILL BE REVIEWED IN FEBRUARY 1977, WHEN COUNCIL WILL DECIDE "WHETHER OR NOT TO EXTEND THE LIFE OF THE COMMITTEE"; (B) PRESENT CSTP PROGRAMS CORRESPOND TO GENERAL DIRECTIVES GIVEN BY MINISTERS OF SCIENCE, I.E., THREE BROAD CATEGORIES, COVERING RESPECTIVELY: RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN GOVERNMENT POLICIES; SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ISSUES; AND SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIETY. A BETTER BALANCE HAS TO BE STRUCK, HOWEVER, BETWEEN CONSIDERATION OF LONG-TERM PROBLEMS, AND CONCRETE ACTION ON POLITICALLY SIGNIFICANT SHORT-TERM PROJECTS; (C) CSTP ACTIVITIES MUST BE ORIENTED TO CONTRIBUTE TO PRIORITY OECD WORK ON NORTH/SOUTH RELATIONS AND ECONOMIC GROWTH; (D) BUDGETARY CUTS HAVE MADE NECESSARY CERTAIN AMENDMENTS TO 1976 PROGRAM, VIZ. PHASE-OUT OF TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT ACTIVITY BY END 1976; POSTPONEMENT UNTIL SECOND HALF OF 1976 THE ACTIVITY ON PROSPECTIVE ANALYSIS AND STRATEGIC PLANNING; REDUCTION IN NUMBER OF REVIEWS OF SOCIAL SCIENCE POLICY.

3. OSHIMA'S REFERENCE TO A COUNCIL DECISION ON "WHETHER OR NOT TO EXTEND THE LIFE OF THE COMMITTEE" GAVE RISE TO A LENGTHY AND USEFUL DISCUSSION ON HOW TO IMPROVE THE PROGRAMS AND WORK-METHODS OF THE CSTP, MAKING THEM MORE RESPONSIVE TO MEMBER-COUNTRY POLITICAL CONCERNS AS EXPRESSED GENERALLY IN THE PROGRAMS OF OTHER OECD COMMITTEES AND MORE SPECIFICALLY IN THE DELIBERATIONS OF THE GROUPS DEALING WITH VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE DIALOGUE. THIS GAVE THE US AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS CONCERN OVER THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PRESENT PROGRAM, AND TO URGE CONCENTRATION ON SUPPORTING SHORT-TERM OVERALL OECD PRIORITIES, WHILE MAINTAINING MIDDLE- TO LONG-TERM PERSPECTIVES ON THE CONTRIBUTION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TO ECONOMIC GROWTH. WELCOMING THE SECRETARIAT PAPER ON THE "FUTURE ROLE AND FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE", SPT(76)6, UNCLASSIFIED

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GANLEY ARGUED FOR MAJOR EMPHASIS ON "R AND D IN GOVERNMENT POLICIES", AND "SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL POLICIES", WITH MORE EMPHASIS ON THE "INTERNATIONAL" THAN THE "NATIONAL". TO HUSBAND LIMITED RESOURCES, HE PROPOSED LOWERING THE PRIORITY ON "SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN SOCIETY", AND CONSIDERABLY DOWNGRADING INTERNATIONAL DISCUSSION OF PURELY NATIONAL ISSUES, WHICH COULD AND SHOULD BE

DEALT WITH ON A PILOT COUNTRY BASIS, WITH MINIMAL
SECRETARIAT SUPPORT.

4. THE US STATEMENT WAS GENERALLY WELL-RECEIVED
BUT, AS EXPECTED, THERE WAS A FAIR AMOUNT OF DIS-
AGREEMENT ON CERTAIN ASPECTS. THE GENERAL AREA OF
SCIENCE AND SOCIETY, FOR INSTANCE, WAS IMMEDIATELY

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DEFENDED BY SEVERAL MEMBER COUNTRIES, AND CONSIDERABLE
CONCERN WAS EXPRESSED AT THE IDEA OF ABANDONING FORUM
DISCUSSION OF NATIONAL ISSUES, PARTICULARLY AS SUCH
DISCUSSION IS CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH THE COMMITTEE'S
TRADITIONAL REVIEW PROCEDURES. ALL AGREED WITH THE US,
HOWEVER, THAT THE CSTP BUREAU SHOULD GET DOWN TO
WORKING OUT PROGRAM PRIORITIES FOR CONSIDERATION BY
THE COUNCIL AS POSSIBLE INPUT TO THE PRIORITIES OF
THE OECD ACTIVITIES ON NORTH/SOUTH RELATIONSHIPS AND
ECONOMIC GROWTH. THERE WAS A GENERAL FEELING, TOO,
THAT THE COMMITTEE SHOULD TAKE THE INITIATIVE OF

BRINGING ITS PROGRAMS - SUITABLY REVISED AND STREAMLINED
- TO THE ATTENTION OF OTHER OECD BODIES LIKELY TO BE
INTERESTED IN A SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGY CONTRIBUTION. CSTP
PROGRAMS WOULD IN FUTURE BE UP-DATED ANNUALLY TO MAKE
THEM MORE RESPONSIVE TO PRIORITY ACTIVITIES ELSEWHERE
IN THE OECD.

5. MEMBERS WERE INVITED TO REFLECT ON THE ABOVE AND
TO COME FORWARD WITH CONCRETE IDEAS ON PRIORITIES AND
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WORK-METHODS AT THE JUNE MEETING. IN THE MEANTIME,
THE BUREAU WOULD ITSELF CONSIDER PRIORITIES AT ITS
MEETING ON APRIL 23, FOR DISCUSSION IN JUNE. DECISIONS
ON INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS WERE TAKEN, AS FOLLOWS:

(A) R&D STATISTICS, SPT(76)2. A "USER" GROUP WILL
REVIEW PROGRAM IN 1977.

(B) DEVELOPMENT AND UTILIZATION OF SOCIAL SCIENCES,
SPT(75)9, SPT(76)10. COMMITTEE ENDORSED PROPOSAL TO
CREATE GROUP CHAIRED BY STENMANS, AND WILL RECONSIDER
FREQUENCY OF REVIEWS OF NATIONAL SOCIAL SCIENCE
POLICY, AIMING AT REDUCTION.

(C) SOCIAL ASSESSMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, SPT(76)8, PHASED
OUT BY END 1976.

(D) INNOVATION IN SERVICE SECTOR. FINAL REPORT BY END
1976, PHASE-OUT.

(E) PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN DECISION MAKING RELATED TO
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, SPT(75)11, 1ST REVISION.
ACTIVITY AGREED. SECRETARIAT TO MAKE PROPOSALS IN
FRAMEWORK OF 1977 PROGRAM.

(F) SECTORAL STUDIES SPT(76)3. PROGRAM ON SCIENCE/
TECHNOLOGY IN HEALTH SECTOR AGREED, WITH LEAD COUNTRY
APPROACH.

(G) PROMISES AND THREATS OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH,
SPT(76)1. CLEAR DISTINCTION MADE BETWEEN THREATS

(I) DURING RESEARCH, AND (II) DURING APPLICATIONS.
COMMITTEE TO CONCENTRATE ON (II), WHILE KEEPING UP-TO-
DATE ON WHAT OTHERS ARE DOING ON (I), SPECIFICALLY, AS
EXAMPLE, ON GENETIC RESEARCH.

(H) MANDATE OF JOINT CSTP/INDUSTRY COMMITTEE WORKING
PARTY ON TECHNOLOGY AND STRUCTURAL ADAPTATION OF
INDUSTRY, SPT(75)19/IND(75)3, 1ST REVISION. MANDATE
APPROVED, AS MODIFIED BY WORKING PARTY.

(I) OECD ACTIVITIES OF INTEREST TO CSTP, SPT(76)4.
HIGH INTEREST IN (A) SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN
DEVELOPED/DEVELOPING COUNTRY RELATIONSHIPS, TOGETHER
WITH APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE OF JAPANESE PROPOSAL ON
"RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION", (B) R AND D
AND ECONOMIC GROWTH.

6. TASK FORCE ON INFORMATION, COMPUTERS AND
COMMUNICATIONS POLICY PROGRAM, SPT(76)7. THE US MADE
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A STRONG PLEA FOR TRANSMITTAL TO THE COUNCIL OF THE
TASK FORCE REPORT, SPT(76)7, ARGUING THAT THE ORGANI-

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ZATIONAL RESTRUCTURING DISCUSSED IN PARAGRAPHS 23-33
REQUIRED A COUNCIL DECISION, PARTICULARLY PARAGRAPH 29,
WHICH SUGGESTED THE CREATION OF A NEW COMMITTEE
REPORTING TO THE COUNCIL. FINLAND WAS THE ONLY COUNTRY
TO SUPPORT THE US, GOING EVEN FURTHER BY PROPOSING
THAT IN FACT A NEW PLENARY COMMITTEE FOR INFORMATION,
COMPUTER AND COMMUNICATIONS POLICY BE CREATED.
SEVERAL MEMBERS, HOWEVER, WERE IN FAVOUR OF MERGING

IPG AND CUG, BUT THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT THE STATUS QUO BE MAINTAINED IN 1976, AND THAT FURTHER CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO PROGRAM PRIORITIES AND TO STRUCTURE. THE DECISIONS FINALLY AGREED BY THE CSTP WERE AS FOLLOWS:

(A) APPROVAL OF GENERAL LINES OF MEDIUM-TERM PROGRAM PER SPT(76)7, ANNEX 1, BUT PRECISE PROGRAM PRIORITIES TO BE ASSIGNED BY PANEL OF CSTP, CHAIRED BY GRANGER, US, OPEN TO ALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS OR TO MEMBER-COUNTRY OFFICIALS NOT MEMBERS OF CSTP. RECOMMENDATIONS TO JUNE MEETING OF CSTP. (B) THE GRANGER PANEL TO FURTHER REFLECT ON THE ORGANIZATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN UNCLASSIFIED

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PARAS 23-33, AND TO MAKE PROPOSALS TO THE OCTOBER MEETING OF THE CSTP. (C) THE IPG AND CUG TO BE REPLACED BY ONE WORKING PARTY IN 1977, BUT TO CONTINUE SEPARATELY IN 1976. THE US RESERVED ON THE ABOVE DECISIONS AND REQUESTED THAT THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH BE INCLUDED IN THE RECORD OF THE MEETING AS THE OFFICIAL US POSITION "THAT THE CSTP SHOULD INVITE THE COUNCIL TO TAKE NOTE OF THE HIGH INTERNATIONAL AS WELL AS NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL POLICY SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SUBJECTS DISCUSSED IN THE DOCUMENT FORWARDED HERewith (SPT(76)7), TO BRING ITS CONTENTS PROMPTLY TO THE ATTENTION OF MEMBER GOVERNMENTS, LEADING TO A COUNCIL DECISION ON THE ORGANIZATION QUESTIONS PRESENTED IN THE DOCUMENT AS SOON AS MEMBER GOVERNMENT POSITIONS CAN CONVENIENTLY BE FORMED". OFFICIAL OECD RECORD WILL BE AIRPOUCHED AS SOON AS AVAILABLE.

7. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS: APRIL 23, CSTP BUREAU.
JUNE 14-16, CSTP PLENARY.
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